

## Insurance Department

For Immediate Release August 4, 2014 Contact: Armand Glick 801-531-5388 aglick@utah.gov

## **Multi-State Insurance Fraudster Pleads Guilty**

On July 14, 2014, Randhir Jhamb, age 51, was sentenced to a year in the Salt Lake County Jail based on two second degree felony convictions of insurance fraud. Jhamb was ordered to pay back nearly \$30,000 in restitution to his insurance company and reimburse the State of Utah Insurance Department's Fraud Division \$7,300 for the cost of their investigation.

Jhamb, who lives primarily in New Jersey, also owns a home in Alta, Utah. Jhamb's Utah insurance fraud convictions involve two states, Utah and New Jersey. In August of 2009, Jhamb filed a burglary report with the Alta Marshall's Office alleging his home had been broken into and several valuable guitars and a bike had been stolen. He was later paid nearly \$30,000 from his insurance company for this claim.

More than a year later, in December of 2010, Jhamb filed a vehicle burglary report in West Long Branch, New Jersey claiming the same guitars had been stolen. An investigator with the West Long Branch Police Department in New Jersey reviewed hotel video surveillance that showed Jhamb bringing the guitars into his room prior to reporting them stolen from his vehicle. The claim was not paid.

Several other claims for the same items were filed by Jhamb over the next two years, including a claim in excess of \$37,000 that he asserted was the result of Super Storm Sandy. With the assistance of the Gladstone New Jersey Police Department, the Utah Insurance Department's Frand Division was able to gather evidence that led to the two second degree felony convictions against Jhamb in Utah.

Additional charges have been filed against Jhamb in New Jersey by the Sumerset County Attorney's Office where he is currently expected to enter a guilty plea.

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The Utah Insurance Department is a State agency. Its mandate is to regulate insurance marketed and sold in Utah. Currently more than 95,000 agents, agencies, and insurers are licensed; domestic insurers are audited to verify financial stability and compliance with insurance laws; administrative action is taken against licensees found to be in violation of insurance laws; calls from consumers with questions or complaints are taken; and licensees and consumers are educated regarding insurance. For more information visit <a href="http://www.insurance.utah.gov/">http://www.insurance.utah.gov/</a> or call toll free in-state @ 1-800-439-3805 or locally @ 801-538-3077.